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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, U. S. D. A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Crops Better Than in 5 of Last 8 Years

All-crop production will total considerably less than in '48 and '49. But it is expected to exceed the total in 5 out of the last 8 years of high production and will be much larger than in any year before '42. Aggregate is expected to be 24 percent greater than the '23-'32 average—compares with 32 above for last year and 38 above for the peak year 1948.

Prospects Improved, Much Smaller Acreage Than in '49

Since mid-May some of the backwardness caused by adverse weather in early spring has been overcome and yield prospects have improved. Larger acreages of corn, soybeans, sorghums, and hay than intended earlier have been planted under mostly favorable conditions. Some of this acreage has been planted to replace cotton, wheat, and other cash crops reduced by allotment programs. Still the total acreage in crops is down from '49 by 13 million acres, and from '48 by 7 million acres.

Another 3-Billion-Bushel Corn Crop Expected

U. S. corn crop may exceed 3 billion bushels. July 1 estimate of 3.2 billion bushels compares with 3.4 billion last year and 2.9 billion 10-year average.

Corn Acreage Smallest in Years

Corn acreage for harvest—83.1 million acres—is smallest since 1894. Acreage this year is nearly 4 million below '49. Decreases from last year are indicated in all of the North Central States except North Dakota and Kansas. In the South Atlantic States a little over 3 percent increase took place—increases in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida more than offsetting declines in the other States of the group.

Yield Per Acre Much Better Than Average

Yield per acre of corn is indicated at 38.2 bushels. This is down a little from last year (.7 of a bushel) but is above average by 5.3 bushels.

Big Crop of Oats Expected

Oats crop this year is expected to be the fourth largest since '25. It would be exceeded only by the record of 1.5 billion bushels in '45 and the near record crops of '46 and '48. This year's crop is estimated at 1.4 billion bushels, up 5 percent from last year and 9 percent from average. Acreage for harvest—42.8 million—is up 5 percent from last year.

Barley Crop Bigger Than Last Year—From Larger Acreage

The barley crop indicated at 265 million bushels compares with 238 million last year and 311 million average. Increase over last year is due to increased acreages. Indicated yield per acre of 23.6 bushels is about a half bushel below both last year and average. The 13.2 million seeded acres is 18 percent above '49. Increased seedings are mostly due to diversion of wheat, corn, and cotton acreages to barley.

All-Wheat Estimate 957 Million Bushels

All-wheat production, now indicated at 957 million bushels, is the smallest crop since '43 but is 12 million bushels more than was forecast in June. Estimate is 17 percent below the 1.1 billion bushels harvested last year. 10-year average production, 1 billion bushels. Bulk of the reduction from last year is in winter wheat which is down 181 million bushels. Spring wheat is estimated at 236 million bushels. Produced last year, nearly 245 million; average, 272 million.

Wheat Acreage Smallest Since '44

Wheat acreage for harvest is the smallest since '44. For harvest this year, 60.5 million acres; last year, 76.8 million; 10-year average, 60.2 million. Acreage allotments, together with adverse weather and damage from insect pests in the southern Great Plains, account for the reduced acreage.

All-Wheat Per Acre Better Than Last Year

Yield per acre of wheat is now indicated at 15.8 bushels. Last year's yield was 14.9 bushels per acre; 10-year average, 17 bushels.

Rye Crop Much Larger Than Last Year

Rye production, estimated at 21.9 million bushels, is 17 percent larger than last year's crop. Harvested last year, 18.7 million bushels; 10-year average 32.2 million. Acreage for harvest is 19 percent larger than last year. Yield per acre (11.8 bushels) is indicated about same as last year.

Grain Stocks on Farms, July 1

Corn on farms July 1—1,058 million bushels; year ago, 1,255 million; July 1 average, 686 million bushels.

Oats on farms—191 million bushels; year ago, 271 million; July 1 average, 207 million bushels.

Wheat on farms—old crop—65 million bushels; year ago, 67 million; July 1 average, 97 million bushels.

Soybeans on farms—7 million bushels; year ago, 10 million; July 1 average, 8 million bushels.

Rye on farms—2 million bushels; year ago, 3 million; July 1 average, 7 million bushels.

Barley on farms—31 million bushels; year ago, 59 million; July 1 average, 49 million bushels.

Cotton Acreage Cut Nearly a Third

Cotton acreage is nearly a third less than last year. Acreage July 1, below the allotments in all States. In cultivation, 19 million acres; year ago, 27.7 million; 1939-48 average, 21.9 million. Allowing for what may be plowed up later to comply with allotments, or abandoned in accordance with previous experience, acreage for harvest may be about 18.4 million acres. Except for '45 and '46 this would be smallest harvested acreage in 65 years.

Cotton Acreage in Cultivation July 1, By States

Missouri.....	440 thousand acres, off from last year, 27%
Virginia.....	26 thousand acres, off from last year, 21%
N. Carolina.....	570 thousand acres, off from last year, 34%
S. Carolina.....	875 thousand acres, off from last year, 32%
Georgia.....	1,170 thousand acres, off from last year, 28%
Florida.....	34 thousand acres, off from last year, 33%
Tennessee.....	650 thousand acres, off from last year, 23%
Alabama.....	1,330 thousand acres, off from last year, 27%
Mississippi.....	2,085 thousand acres, off from last year, 27%
Arkansas.....	1,720 thousand acres, off from last year, 34%
Louisiana.....	775 thousand acres, off from last year, 28%
Oklahoma.....	1,050 thousand acres, off from last year, 22%
Texas.....	7,200 thousand acres, off from last year, 34%
New Mexico.....	189 thousand acres, off from last year, 41%
Arizona.....	290 thousand acres, off from last year, 28%
California.....	614 thousand acres, off from last year, 36%
Other States* ...	14 thousand acres, off from last year, 32%

*(Ill., Kan., Ky., Nev.)

PARITY PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCTS AND ACTUAL PRICES RECEIVED

COMMODITY AND UNIT	ACTUAL PRICE		PARITY PRICE
	May 15 1950	June 15 1950	June 15 1950
Wheat, bu.	dol. 2.04	1.93	2.21
Corn, bu.	dol. 1.34	1.36	1.60
Peanuts, lb.	ct. 10.7	10.8	12.0
Cotton, lb.	ct. 29.24	29.91	31.00
Potatoes, bu.	dol. 1.28	1.27	1.75
Hogs, 100 lb.	dol. 18.50	17.80	19.20
Beef cattle, 100 lb.	dol. 23.20	23.70	17.30
Veal calves, 100 lb.	dol. 25.70	25.90	19.40
Lambs, 100 lb.	dol. 24.60	24.80	19.10
Butterfat, lb.	ct. 1/64.0	1/65.2	70.6
Milk, wholesale, 100 lb.	dol. 1/3.87	1/2/3.85	4.41
Chickens, live, lb.	ct. 22.5	22.1	29.1
Eggs, doz.	ct. 1/34.4	1/33.8	51.1

1/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.

2/ Preliminary.

Big Increase in American-Egyptian Acreage

Acreage of American-Egyptian cotton under cultivation July 1, estimated at 110.5 thousand acres, is nearly 20 times last year's 5.6 thousand acres. Most of it is in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. American-Egyptian is not under acreage allotments.

Heavy Boll Weevil Infestation

Number of boll weevils emerging this spring, heaviest of record. Infestation of plants and early squares very heavy. Intensive and widespread poisoning was begun earlier than ever.

Meat Production Up From Year Ago

Meat produced in U. S. commercial plants in May totaled 1,618 million pounds. This compares with 1,496 million pounds produced in May last year—an increase of 8 percent. For the January-May period production was up 3 percent from year ago. Pork production was up 7 percent; mutton and lamb, 5 percent. Beef was down 1 percent and veal 2 percent from the 5-month period. Estimates do not include farm slaughter. (Fuller details in "Livestock Slaughter By States," issued June 30.)

Tobacco Production Down A Little From Last Year

Production of all tobacco is forecast at 1,932 million pounds. This compares with last year's crop of 1,970 million pounds. Main reduction is in burley.

Big Sugar Beet and Sugar Cane Crops

Indicated 12.5 million ton production of sugar beets is largest crop on record. Produced last year, 10.2 million tons; average, 9.9 million tons. Sugar cane for sugar and seed is indicated at 7.6 million tons compared with 6.8 million tons in '49 and 5.9 million tons average.

Big Hay Crop--Pastures About Average

More hay than originally intended will be harvested. Indicated production of 103 million tons tops last year by 4 million tons; tops average by 3 million tons. Pasture condition for country as a whole is about average and same as year ago. Some improvement during the past month.

Flaxseed Crop Down From Last Year And From Average

Flaxseed production, estimated at 29.3 million bushels, is down 14 million bushels from last year's fairly large crop. The record crop in '48 was 54.5 million bushels; 10-year average, 34.8 million bushels. Production this year is expected to be larger than in any year prior to '40 except in '02 and '24.

Small Acreage of Flax For Fiber; No Hemp

Flax grown for fiber in Oregon, about 1,000 acres, is less than a third of the acreage planted last season. But little or no abandonment is expected. No hemp for fiber is being grown this year. Last year, 4,700 acres of hemp were harvested in Wisconsin, the only State producing hemp for fiber. Kentucky which produces hemp for seed has cut the acreage this year to 100, only half of last year's acreage. Seed from last year's crop has not been used.

Big Acreage of Soybeans

The 14.5 million acres of soybeans planted alone for all purposes tops last year's planting by 28 percent or 3 million acres. Increased acreage is largely from land diverted from corn and cotton now under acreage allotments.

Peanut Acreage Exceeds March Intentions

Peanuts planted alone for all purposes (picking, threshing, and hogging) are estimated at 2.6 million acres, about 8 percent below last year. This is 3 percent above March intentions. Forecast of 1950 production will be made in August.

Dry Beans Average Crop; Dry Peas Small Crop

Production dry edible beans, forecast at 17.2 million 100-pound bags, will be about 20 percent less than last year's record crop and is about an average crop. Production of dry peas, at 2.8 million bags, is expected to be smallest crop since 1940. Crop is down about 14 percent from last year and is less than half of an average crop.

Mung Bean Acreage Up From Last Year

The Oklahoma mung bean acreage, estimated at 45 thousand acres, is 10 thousand acres more than was planted in '49. In '45 when importations from China were cut off by the war, the acreage reached a peak of 169 thousand acres.

Sorghum Acreage Up a Third From Last Year

About 15.7 million acres have been planted in all sorghums--for grain, forage, silage, and sirup. This is an increase over last year of 34 percent and is the largest acreage since '45.

Larger Than Average Rice Crop Forecast

The rice crop estimated at 35.2 million bags (100-pound) compares with 40.1 million bags harvested last year and the 10-year average of 29.8 million bags. Crop is smaller than last year because of fewer planted acres following reestablishment of acreage allotments.

Less Deciduous Fruits Than Last Year

Production of deciduous fruits is indicated at 11 percent less than the 1949 output and 4 percent less than average. Compared with 1949, apples are indicated at 10 percent less, peaches 26 percent less, pears 22 percent less, grapes 3 percent more, cherries 10 percent less, plums and prunes 18 percent less and apricots 3 percent more. Prospects for apples, cherries, and plums are significantly better than average for pears and grapes a little less than average. But prospects for peaches, prunes, and apricots are down sharply from average.

More Oranges, Less Grapefruit Than Last Year

The U. S. citrus crops for the '49-50 season and comparisons with the '48-49 crops are as follows: oranges 103.2 million boxes—3 percent larger; Florida tangerines 5 million boxes—14 percent larger; grapefruit 36.6 million boxes—20 percent smaller; California lemons 10.4 million boxes—4 percent larger. Prospects are good for the new citrus crops.

Prices Paid Continue Up

The general level of prices paid by farmers (including interest, taxes, and farm wages) continued to rise during June, reaching 255 percent of the 1910-14 average, up 1 index point from May and 3 points from June '49. No change last month in prices received.

Price Levels About 2½ Times 1910-14 Average

Roughly summarized, prices received by farmers are nearly 2½ times as high as the 1910-14 average; prices paid (including interest, taxes and farm wage rates) a little more than 2½ times as high as the 1910-14 average. The parity ratio, at 97, is 3 points under the ratio for the 1910-14 base period.

Business Activity Continues Upward

In May industrial production almost reached its postwar peak and was expected to register even higher when June reports are in. Motor vehicle output first half of June was by far highest on record. Steel operations and construction activity were near the top. Total employment in both May and June were at new highs for those months. And capital outlays for business this year are expected to be considerably higher than expected earlier.

Hired Farm Workers Up More Than Seasonally

Hired employment on farms in June was up 31 percent from May, a more than seasonal rise, while family employment was down about seasonally. 3.1 million hired laborers were at work on farms in June compared with 2.4 million in May and 3.2 million in June last year. Farm family workers numbered 8.6 million in June compared with 9.1 million in May and 8.9 million in June last year.

National Employment Near All-Time High

Civilians at work in the U. S. in June, 61.5 million, was near the all-time high of 61.6 million reached in July '48. Unemployed in June, 3.4 million; year earlier 3.8 million.

CURRENT INDEXES FOR AGRICULTURE

INDEX NUMBERS	BASE PERIOD	June 1950
Prices received by farmers	1910-14= 100	247
Prices paid by farmers, interest taxes, and farm wage rates	1910-14= 100	255
Parity ratio	1910-14= 100	97
Wholesale prices of food	1910-14= 100	1/ 250
Retail prices of food	1910-14= 100	2/ 258
Farm wage rates	1910-14= 100	3/ 429
Weekly factory earnings	1910-14= 100	4/ 496
PRODUCTION COMPARISONS		Jan.-June 1949 Jan.-June 1950
Milk, (Bil. lb.)	61.4	62.9
Eggs, (Bil.)	32.4	34.5
Beef, (Dr. wt., mil. lb.)	5/ 2,862	5/ 2,801
Lamb & Mutton (Dr. wt., mil. lb.) ..	5/ 211	5/ 223
Pork & Lard (Mil. lb.)	5/ 4,062	5/ 4,340
All meats (Dr. wt., mil. lb.)	5/ 7,399	5/ 7,618

1/ Week ended nearest 15 of the month.

2/ May figure. 3/ July, adjusted for seasonal variation.

4/ April figure.

5/ January-May under Federal inspection